

THE STATE JOURNAL.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY OF TOPEKA

By FRANK P. MACLENNAN.

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Weather Indications.

WASHINGTON, August 7.—Forecast until 8 p. m., Wednesday: For Kansas—Fair, warmer Wednesday morning; southerly winds becoming westerly.

CHOLERA is now in Holland. It seems to have got it in spite of dykes.

WHAT this congress needs more than anything else is to be prerogative.

CHAIRMAN BREIDENBACH's explanation of Justice Allen's letter is very clever, but not convincing.

ALLOWING the house to ratify the senate schedules is what the senate calls making concessions.

THE reports of the indecent Indian dances indicate that Chicago has overlooked some of her opportunities.

A BAD fire has just taken place at Nowata, Indian Territory. No word, there was nothing to put it out with.

THE unusual feature of the discovery of frauds in the Carpenter armor works is that the proprietor isn't a philanthropist.

THE largest nail factory has started to work night and day. Campaign lies it seems are already beginning to affect the market.

THE emperor of China has divested his prime minister of the yellow jacket, and it looks like the old fellow was getting a little waspish.

A FIRE in a baseball grandstand at Chicago Sunday, caused a panic among the spectators. When the umpire discovered it he called it out.

THERE are not many men who would envy the last relay bicycle rider when he hands that letter to Governor Waite and tells him it is from Cleveland.

CONGRESSMAN HARRIS' daughter has eloped with a liveryman. A man with all the horses and buggies he wants is a little more than the average girl can resist.

CABLES are reported to have said that the treasury was virtually bankrupt. "And the Democratic party is responsible for it," he might have added with equal truth.

COL. DICK BLUE in explaining his views on the money question says he goes farther than the Republican platform. If he has any views at all he is certainly greatly in advance of that instrument.

CONGRESSMAN BRYAN has now formally announced his candidacy for the United States senate. When a Democratic representative says he won't run again, it is only a question of what the other thing is he is after.

FROM a synopsis of the work of this congress, it appears that about all it has done has been to pass deficiency appropriation bills. From all appearances that will also be the principal business of the next congress.

IT is said the senate could adjourn in three days with the tariff bill once disposed of. It could also dispose of the tariff bill in three days, but that would look too much like they were the servants of the people.

NOW that labor organizations have decided not to strike any more, but to vote, you will see that the people who shrieked the loudest about the strikes will shriek just as loud about the way the labor organizations vote. Nothing appears to suit these shrieking people.

ALVAR SHEDDEN of Eldorado, speaks out in the irritation of his soul: "The uncultured newspaper fellers still ape the lawyers and refer to 'the above,' 'the above named,' 'the above mentioned.' They belong to the same class who write locals, 'see John Smith for spring greens before purchasing elsewhere.' 'Sam Jones' horse got (which is an action verb) frightened, overturned the buggy and threw him to the ground' (instead of to the moon); 'the widow woman, Mrs. Simpkins, is out of soap and needs aid'; 'see regards' for regarding, Decoration Day for Memorial Day, and a lot of other atrocities making life burdensome to the careful reader."

C. WOOD DAVIS' PRICE FOR WHEAT

C. Wood Davis is still so mad at everybody because wheat went down to forty cents when he said it would go to \$2, that he writes a long letter about Jerry Simpson abusing him for it; but Jerry has been sick in bed for six months and couldn't help it. C. Wood Davis' prophecy makes one think of Jabez Smith setting off the fireworks. Jabez said, "This firework, ladies and gentlemen, will go up and bust and become a eagle." But it didn't; it went down into the grass, scaring the people to death, singeing the girls' dresses and causing three or four runaways among the horses. C. Wood Davis' price for wheat that was to soar aloft went most lamentably the other way. The trouble with Mr. Davis was that he didn't reckon on the European money kings who are running the finances of this country. They didn't intend wheat to go to two dollars and it didn't.

BRYAN'S NEW PARTY.

Congressman W. J. Bryan of Nebraska has declared his candidacy for the United States senate on a platform of his own building. This platform is neither Democratic, Republican nor Populist, and yet it follows, so closely the lines laid down in the Omaha platform that it is not difficult to see that he hopes to win the united support of the Populists and the anti-administration Democrats of his state.

He declares for: Tariff for revenue only, a graduated income tax, free coinage of silver and gold at the ratio of 16 to 1, for the abolition of all banks of issue, the issue of legal tender paper money redeemable in coin, the prohibition of contracts for the payment of any particular kind of money, in favor of the election of senators by popular vote, limiting the presidency to one term, liberal pensions and government ownership of railroads to a limited extent.

If it be Mr. Bryan's desire to launch a new party on the sea of politics, he has made a good beginning. He has announced that he will stump the state in advocacy of these principles, and as he has recently become the owner of the Omaha World-Herald, he will also make that a medium for the dissemination of his views.

THE Democratic administration is getting little comfort out of the conventions of the party which are assembling and making platforms from day to day. From reading the reports of these affairs as sent out by telegraph it is easy to see that in most instances it is with the utmost difficulty that an absolute condemnation of Mr. Cleveland's course is prevented. It is a rare case when a convention of his party extends to him a word of praise. When anything commendatory is said of him it is usually done in a half-hearted way and gets through by a scratch, and is followed by a declaration in favor of the free and unlimited coinage of silver. Notwithstanding these daily occurrences, Mr. Cleveland and his congress go straight ahead in the course he mapped out in the beginning. Evidently the proverbial brick house would not affect the president; nothing less than the dome of the capitol or the Washington monument would catch his attention.

CORNELIUS HERZ has just been sentenced to five years' imprisonment and to pay a fine of \$3,000 francs by the French courts for his part in the Panama canal swindle. Cornelius went over from San Francisco for the purpose of engineering the gigantic scheme for robbing the French people. His fate should be a warning to others in his line not to leave so good a field of labor, and one where there is so much immunity from serious consequences, as the United States for new and untried territory. He might have prosecuted his business here without serious molestation, especially if he had first taken the pains to get himself elected to the United States senate. Senatorial courtesy can be relied upon to protect a man in any kind of thievery.

WE worked like Trojans four years ago to send to congress Honest Ben Clover and he fell in love with a girl with red slippers, all we got out of it was a package of garden seeds. Then we sent down Mr. Peffer and made him a senator, Mr. Peffer worked his son in as a member of the Oxnard Sugar company with a big salary and Mr. Peffer backed the tariff bill on a bounty for sugar. Then we sent down that grand man, John Martin, who made a speech here for free trade and free trade lead, when he got to Washington the Hutchinson Salt company made him declare for a tariff on salt and the Galena fellows made him stand up for a tariff on lead ore.—Chautau Blade, Democratic.

IT does seem as if a Democrat had about as little to be proud of in Kansas as any state in the union.

IF the farmers of the state are oppressed and starving to death, how is it they have so much to feed strikers with as they are doing in several places? It is certainly laudable to help those who are hungry or in distress, but how is it the debt-ridden, poverty-stricken farmers as the Populists call them, have such a great superfluity?

THE telephone business ought to be a paying one in Holland and Germany, so many people there have a von.

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SHIPS AND SOLDIERS.

THE FIGHTING FORCES OF THE CHINESE AND JAPANESE EMPIRES.

Some Say the Celestials Can Muster a Million Men of Arms on Short Notice—Japan's Army Smaller, but Better Drilled, Their Navies Analyzed.

It seems to be generally conceded that so far as mere numbers go, the government of the Celestial Empire can count on many more fighting men than can that of the land of the chrysanthemum in the war that seems now to have really been begun over the Hermit Kingdom, as Korea is often termed. On the other hand, it is claimed that the Japanese soldiers are better drilled and better equipped than are the Chinese, and better fighters to boot, and that by reason of these things Japan has an ex-



KOREA AND HER NEIGHBORS.

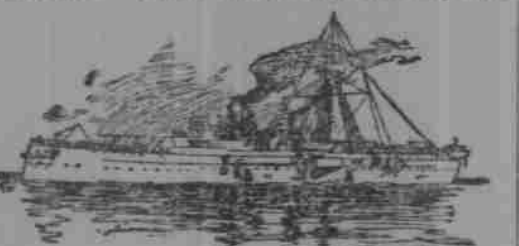
cellent chance of winning. In the long run, however, say the students of the history of these oriental nations, China will hold her own, and more. Her population is so enormous as to be practically inexhaustible, and her resources are great almost beyond computation. She can therefore put up an excellent fight, even after suffering what seems to be a crushing defeat and long after the fighting men and the material resources of her island rivals have given out. Unless Russia or some other occidental power interferes, say these students, China's hold on Korea, though it may be broken for a time, will be renewed and will continue.

This view of the probabilities seems to be amply borne out by the facts of history. There have always been jealousies between China and Japan, and the two empires have almost always been at loggerheads over Korea. A little more than 300 years ago—in 1592, to be exact—they had a big war over the little peninsula. Japan won every battle but one and completely invested the land. For several years Korea was tributary to the victors, but China's population being so great she was able to send new relays of fighting men year after year, and the contest became such a drain upon the resources of Japan that when the emperor under whose reign the war was begun died the Japanese troops were withdrawn, and Korea has ever since paid tribute to China. It is understood that the Japanese authorities fully realize the truth in this matter, and that therefore their disavowal of any design of maintaining control of the peninsula is sincere, their object in bringing on war being merely to protect their treaty rights in Korean ports.

The Chinese army available on short notice numbers almost 1,000,000 men. There is, first, the division known as "the eight banners," including Manchus, Mongols and descendants of the Chinese who in 1644 joined their fortunes to those of the invaders, 323,800 men in all, of whom 100,000 are understood to be annually reviewed by the emperor himself. The "Ying Ping," or national army, numbers about 650,000 officers and men all told, the total forces of the united armies thus being 978,800. Not all of this immense force can be said to be active. Captain Norman describes the active army in detail. The army of Manchuria, 70,000 men, is divided into two corps, with headquarters at Tsitsihar and Mukden. This army has the Mauser rifle and Krupp fieldpieces.

The army of the center, with headquarters at Kaifu, has 50,000 men, which may be doubled in time of war, and is armed with Remington rifles. The Turkestan army, large, but how large Captain Norman does not state, could not be utilized in a foreign war, probably because it is constantly employed maintaining order in the western provinces. The territorial army of "braves" numbers 200,000 in time of peace and may be increased to 600,000 in time of war.

There are those who claim that these estimates of China's military strength are too high. For instance, a German officer of rank, who entered the Chinese service during the Franco-Chinese war and labored hard to improve the efficiency of the army, places its total effective force at about 300,000. The Chinese emperor, unlike occidental potentates, says this German, had no personal relations with the army. In fact, he regards it as an inferior service. In the years of the Taiping rebellion it was different. Then the soldier was by all



CHINESE WARSHIP LAI YUAN.

odds the most important man of every neighborhood. If he were a private, he drew only 2 cents a day pay, but the government furnished him with his house, and the house had a garden, the tillage of which would furnish plenty of food. In those days the soldier was practically a policeman, and he was numerous enough in every province to put down all traces of insurrection.

When war with an outside power—the French—came, in 1885, all this was changed. No longer could the soldier live in a house and till a garden furnished by the government, no longer

could he be a family man and policeman first and a soldier afterward. The consequent change has brought about a great lack of enthusiasm on the part of the soldier, largely because of his having to give up the house and garden, but it has also brought much more efficient arms, for the flintlock and spear have been replaced by rapid fire breech-loading rifles, and there has been some attempt made to introduce discipline.

The Japanese army is organized on a uniform conscription system. All males must serve for seven years, the period of service beginning at the age of 20. Three years are spent in the active branch of the army and the other four in the reserves. After quitting the army of reserve they become members of the landwehr for five years. All men between the ages of 17 and 40 not members of the active, the reserve or the landwehr army are members of the landstrum and may be called on in emergency. In 1892 the active army was composed of the imperial guard and six divisions. The guard numbers 6,207 officers and men, 40 field guns and 558 horses. The six divisions are: Infantry, 83,925 officers and men; cavalry, 1,392 officers and men and 1,148 horses; artillery, 5,435 officers and men, 340 field and 120 mountain pieces and 1,655 horses; engineers, 2,075 officers and men; train, 3,108 officers and men and 1,740 horses and miscellaneous service. The total of the active army on a peace footing, including the miscellaneous service, is 66,103 officers and men, 814 field guns, 156 mountain guns and 8,791 horses. There are besides a thousand or so gendarmes, 3,000 or 4,000 "yomanry" and about 2,000 officers and students attached to the military schools.

The reserve numbers 99,554 and the landwehr 99,176, the total effective force, exclusive of the landstrum, that could be counted on in case of war being not far from 273,000 men. This number could undoubtedly and probably in case of extended hostilities would be greatly increased by some system of volunteering or conscription. The Japanese make their own small arms, ammunition and ordnance.

Probably the navies of the two empires will play quite as important a part in the drama as the armies. China's navy has been added to greatly during the last decade and a half. It now includes one first class, one second class and three third class battleships, nine vessels for port defense, nine second class, 12 third class and 35 lower class cruisers, two first class, 26 second class and 18 third class torpedo boats, besides two smaller craft. These vessels are

TAMIYO ARISUGAWA.
[Commander in chief of Japan's army.]

divided into the north coast squadron, the Fuchau squadron, the Shanghai flotilla and the Canton flotilla. The largest ships in the Chinese fleet were built in European yards, but some of the torpedo cruisers, gunboats and dispatch boats are products of the imperial yards at Fuchau.

The Japanese fleet has been described as a "purely defensive force of the mobile character without coast defense vessels." The vessels are five armored cruisers, nine second class cruisers of between 2,000 and 5,000 tons each; 23 third class cruisers, 15 of which have a speed of 10 knots and upward; one first class torpedo boat and 40 second class. The admiralty department of the Japanese administration is counted of great importance. The principal dockyard is at Yokosuka, the naval school is at Tokyo, and there are two naval districts, at the head of each of which is a vice minister subject to the naval minister at Tokyo.

The fastest boats in the Japanese navy are the Yoshino and a new ship yet unnamed both of steel and capable of making 23 knots each. The new boat is set down somewhat indefinitely as "building." Whether she is nearly completed or not I cannot say. The Yoshino is 350 feet in length, of 46 feet and 6 inches beam, and with a displacement of about 4,000 tons. Both the Yoshino and the new ship are Japan built, and so is the Akitsushima, a vessel of 19 knots speed. The armament of all the 23 principal ships of the Japanese navy is said to be excellent.

The Lai Yuan, the Chinese ship of which a picture is given with this article, is a double bottomed steel ship carrying compound armor, of good speed and excellent armament. None of the Chinese ships is as fast as the fastest of the Japanese, 16½ knots, the rate attainable by the Kunning, built at the Fuchau yards, being the maximum reported speed.

Korea, where most of the fighting will be done, figures but little in speculations as to the outcome of the fight between her big neighbors. The Korean army numbers not more than 5,000 men, stationed at Seoul. They have been drilled by American instructors and native officers, and two of the regiments are equipped with Remington rifles. A battery of Gatling and one of Krupp guns is also stationed at Seoul, and a force of 500 cavalry has lately been organized, armed with carbines and swords. Theoretically there are 1,200,000 men in Korea that may be called upon in case of necessity; but, in fact, not one in 100 of them could be made available if called upon. The Korean navy is like the snakes of Ireland.

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